



Growth-Oriented and Sustainable Infrastructure



Economy and Prosperity



Governance, Leadership and Learning Environments



Natural Amenities

2016

# STORY COUNTY ANNUAL REPORT



**Story County Board of Supervisors**

County Administration Building | 900 6th Street | Nevada, Iowa 50201 (515) 382-7200

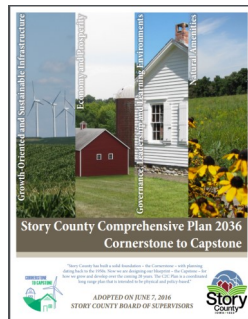
**SERVICE DELIVERY PROMOTING QUALITY OF LIFE**



## CORNERSTONE TO CAPSTONE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Looking forward to 2036.

That's what the *Cornerstone to Capstone (C2C) Plan* is all about.



Story County has built a solid foundation – the Cornerstone – with planning dating back to the 1950s. In 2016, the Board finished the blueprint – the Capstone – for how we grow and develop over the coming 20 years.

The C2C Plan is a coordinated long range plan that is intended to be physical and policy-based. It guides us with a clear vision and goals, identifies quality of life aspects, and outlines strategies. The C2C Plan is the foundation of the Implementation Matrix.

The Board's adoption of the C2C Plan in June 2016 was the first step in the implementation process. Continuing action to implement the Plan is needed for it to have lasting impact, and in recognizing such, the Board approved the Implementation Matrix to prioritize how we will move our vision forward. It is Story County's to-do list with which we will track our progress, report results, and provide opportunities to grow with the vision we have set forth.

The C2C Plan developed was guided by the Planning and Development staff and County Outreach and Special Projects Manager. They followed a model planning process for creation of the C2C, and were recognized by the Iowa American Planning Association (APA) in November 2016 with the APA-Iowa Planning Agency Award.



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## FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY



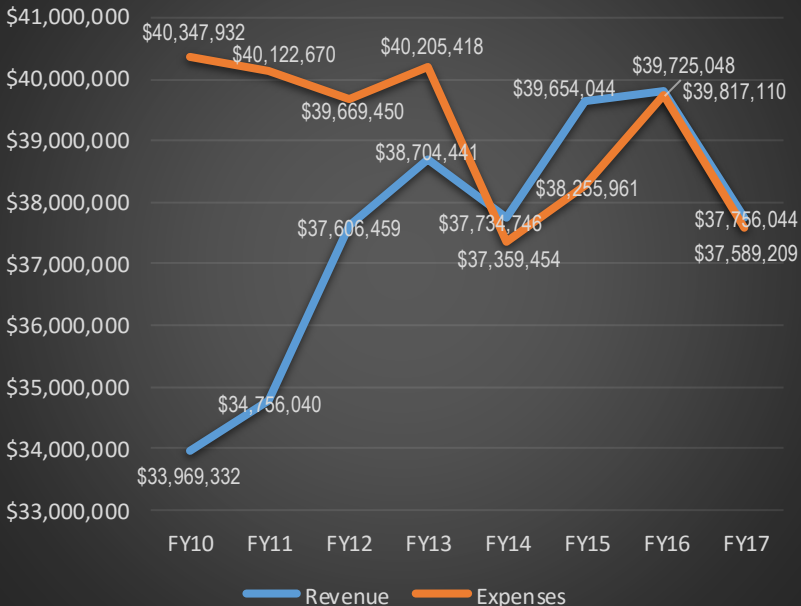
Story County's fiscal position remains outstanding after four consecutive years of approving a balanced budget.

This has been achieved while increasing funding for Secondary Roads; addressing future purchases, necessary building improvements and maintenance projects through annual review and adoption of the County's Capital Improvement Plan; and continuing to invest in our communities with stronger

and more robust economic development programming activities. We continue the practice of annually reviewing our Strategic Plan to assure our priorities and budgeting policies remain aligned to continue to achieve success.



**Story County Expenses vs. Revenues  
(Budgeted)**





In 2009, the Story County Animal Shelter moved into a new home outside of the city of Nevada. That home became the permanent site for the Animal Shelter in 2016 with the purchase of the facility by Story County.

Story County continued its partnership in ASSET (Analysis of Social Services Evaluation Team) by coordinating and funding over 60 services provided by 30 human service agencies all located in Story County. The County, City of Ames, United Way of Story County, Iowa State University Student Government, and Central Iowa Community Services collectively address and monitor the human service needs throughout the county through the use of dedicated volunteers. In Fiscal Year 2017, Story County allocated just over \$1 million out of the \$4 million in the funding process. As we move into Fiscal Year 18, Story County will be considering the use of a "scorecard" tool to evaluate human service agency outcomes.

Hickory Grove is Story County's largest and most popular park. Construction of a new shower house at Breezy Bay campground is targeted for completion in time for the 2017 camping season. The shower house will double as a storm shelter as an extra safety measure for park users.



Following the State-mandated regionalization of the managed health care system, in 2015 Story County transferred the Community Life Program (CLP) services to Optima. The final step in this transition occurred in 2016 with the sale of the CLP building in Ames to Optima.



The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS) recognizes and encourages floodplain management activities exceeding minimum NFIP standards. Using a class rating system similar to fire insurance rating to determine flood insurance premium reductions for residents, CRS Classes are rated from 9 to 1. Story County entered the CRS program in October at a Class 7 rating, resulting in a 15 percent discount on their flood insurance premiums for unincorporated residents in the floodplain.



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## SUPERVISORS' ACTIONS



### Board Appointments

*Total Meetings—439*

Rick Sanders	150
Paul Toot	39
Wayne Clinton	176
Marty Chitty	74

### Regular-Scheduled Meetings of the Board of Supervisors

Total Meetings	51
Claims	26
Consent Items	495
Public Hearings	42
Additional Items	150
Agency Reports	26
Departmental Reports	33
Other Reports	34
Proclamations and Recognitions	10
Total Items	684



### Other Meetings of the Board Members

*Total Meetings*

Board of Canvassers	6
Drainage District Trustees	21





## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

### ISU Research Park Expansion

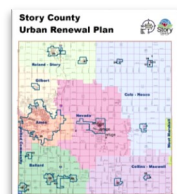
Story County Conservation now owns a 30-acre greenspace within the Iowa State University Research Park Expansion in south Ames, as part of an agreement between Iowa State University Research Park and Story County. This partnership brings together county, city, university, and state agencies together to showcase how commercial development and natural resource conservation can be symbiotic. It focuses on progressive approaches to resource protection, water quality improvements, environmental education, and recreation.



### Urban Renewal Area Projects Awarded

Support for our smaller communities continued to be a priority. Funding in the amount of nearly \$370,000 for Urban Renewal Area Projects was awarded by the Board of Supervisors in 2016 to:

- ◆ City of Collins – Demolition and revitalization of buildings along Main Street.
- ◆ City of Story City – Proposed improvements to North Park Project.
- ◆ City of Cambridge – Construction of Cambridge Community Center.
- ◆ City of Huxley – All-inclusive playground structure installation at Nord Kalsem Park.
- ◆ City of Slater – Decorative sidewalk, parking area replacement and decorative street lighting along Main Street.



### Façade Grant Program

The Board of Supervisors approved modifications to the Façade Improvement Grant in 2016, and amended the guidelines to accept applications at any time. Since adopting such changes, Story County

has funded two applications, including:

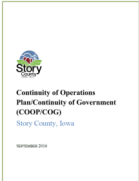
- ◆ City of Cambridge—119 Water Street funding \$8,200
- ◆ City of Slater—501 Main Street funding \$4,400.



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## CONTINUITY PLANNING

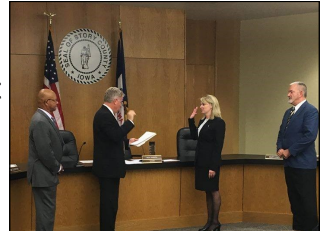


The Board of Supervisors adopted the first Continuity of Operations/Continuity of Government (COOP/COG) in September. The COOP/COG Plan ensures the continuity of essential functions under all circumstances that may disrupt normal operations and serves as a baseline of preparedness for the full range of potential emergencies.

## JESSICA REYNOLDS APPOINTED AS STORY COUNTY ATTORNEY



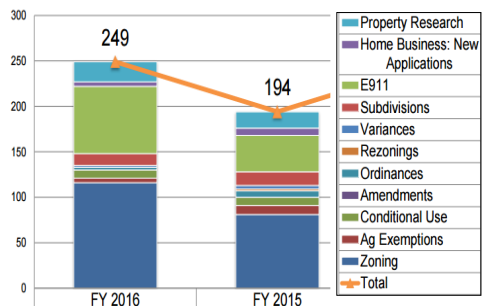
Following the retirement of long-standing County Attorney Stephen Holmes in September, the Board of Supervisors sought qualified applicants for the position through a search and appointment process. Jessica Reynolds (at that time, serving at First Assistant County Attorney) was appointed by the Board to be the new Story County Attorney on September 30, 2016.



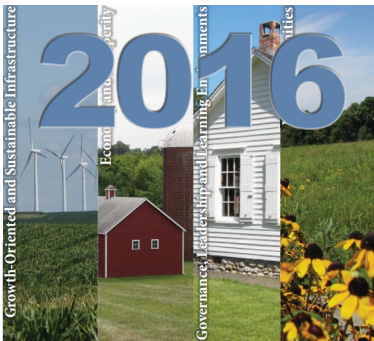
## GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

In response to increased development activity in the unincorporated areas of Story County, the Board of Supervisors approved a county planner position in fall 2016 to address staffing needs and effectively handle current and future demands.

Comparison of Permits, Development Cases and other Planning and Development Department Operations: YTD



2016



1959 2016



Thank You Paul!



*Supervisor Paul D. Toot passed away May 6, 2016. Paul served the citizens of Story County for over 35 years, first as a Story County Deputy for 30 years, and then elected in 2010 and again in 2014 to the Board of Supervisors. Paul left an indelible mark on Story County and is greatly missed.*

*Rick*

**Rick Sanders**

*Lauris*

**Lauris Olson**

*Marty*

**Marty Chitty**



## Story County Board of Supervisors

This publication can be viewed online in PDF format at the Story County website:

**[www.storycountyiowa.gov](http://www.storycountyiowa.gov)**